A new Blattid (Orthoptera) from the Island of Mayotta

by
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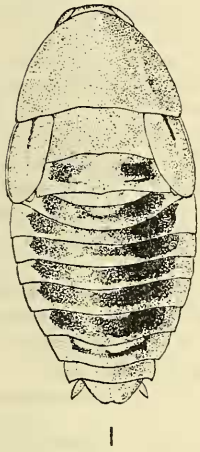
While studying the collection of the Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie at Leiden, I found a new Blattid of the genus *Heminauphoeta* Saussure for which I propose the name *Heminauphoeta* **mayottensis** nov. sp.

Type. — ♂; Mayotta near Madagascar; Pollen and Van Dam; Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, Leiden.



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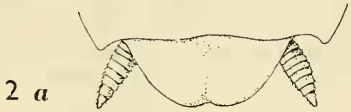

2 *a*

2 *b*

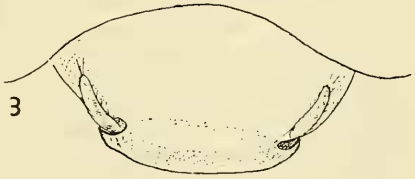

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Fig. 1, Dorsal view of male. 3 ×. Fig. 2a, Dorsal view of supra-anal plate of male. 8 ×. Fig. 2b, Ventral view of subgenital plate of male. 8 ×. Fig. 3, Caudal view of subgenital plate of male. 15 ×.

Characters: ♂, Head in dorsal aspect visible cephalad of pronotum, in cephalic aspect broad cordiform, greatest width across eyes equal to greatest depth, occipital outline regularly and arcuately continuous with that of eyes; occipital interspace between eyes very broad, half the entire width of head and equal to eleven-twelfth of that between internal margins of antennal scrobes; face deplanate; palpi relatively short, relative proportions of three distal articles 17 : 13 : 15 (reading proximad), ultimate article trigono-securiform in profile, depth to length as 5 : 17.

Pronotum moderately transverse, greatest width to greatest length as 31 to 22, former nearly at caudal end; cephalic margin subtruncate to arcuate; lateral margin caudad divergent, arcuate;

caudo-lateral angles not produced, rounded ; caudal margin broad, truncate, in transverse section the pronotum is regularly arcuate. Tegmina lobate, reaching as far as the caudal margin of the metanotum, regularly narrowing distad, apex rounded ; proximal width contained one and a half times in the costal length of tegment (as 11 to 16); costal margin gently arcuate throughout, thickened : tegmina punctated over the whole surface. Caudal margin of the mesonotum and metanotum biconcave, the median production faint but evident.

Abdomen with distal tergite (supra-anal plate) moderately transverse, its free margin arcuate with a weak but distinct median emargination. Cerci as long as the supra-anal plate, not projecting beyond this. Ultimate sternite (subgenital plate) transverse, lateral and caudal portions regularly rounding dorsad to level of the lateral margins. At the base of each style the subgenital plate forms an acute arcuate tooth, which points laterad ; styles simple, subequal, styliform. Cerci short, stout, fusiform, apex more or less acute, composed of eight segments.

Limbs robust ; cephalic femora with series of chaetae on ventro-cephalic margin ; one terminal spine on the ventro-caudal margin ; cephalic tibia robust with stout spines.

General color ochraceous-tawny. Eyes tawny to mummy-brown ; antennae ochraceous-tawny proximad, rufous-brown distad. Head with a broad regular mummy-brown interocular bar. Pronotum and mesonotum ochraceous-tawny. Tegmina ochraceous-tawny except the basal half of the discoidal vein which is mummy-brown. Metanotum with two mummy-brown lateral patches.

First tergite ochraceous-tawny ; 2nd with lateral brown patches which are more or less confluent in the median ; 3d-7th tergite with broad mummy-brown patches ; 8th tergite with an arcuate brown band. 2nd-7th sternite also with brown lateral patches.

Only four species of this genus are known so far, and all occur on Madagascar or the adjacent islands.

Our new species is narrowly related to *H. brunneriana* Saussure but differs in the regularly narrowing tegmina (*H. brunneriana* obliquely truncated) and the ochraceous margins of the tergites (*H. brunneriana* rufously marginated).

Length of body 19.5 mm, length of pronotum 5 mm, width of pronotum 7.5 mm, length of tegmen 4.5 mm, width of tegmen 2.5 mm, distance between tegmina 4 mm.

Key to the species of *Heminauphoeta* (partly after H. de Saussure).

A Both sexes apterous ..... *sakalava* Sauss.
AA Rudimental tegmina.
B Tegmina meeting in the median line ..... *hova* Sauss.
BB Tegmina lateral
C Tegmina obliquely truncated ..... *brunneriana* Sauss.
CC Tegmina gradually narrowing ... *mayottensis* nov. spec.

Leiden, Rijksmuseum van Natuurlijke Historie, September 1946.